Bond for costs of proceedings.

Summons to be served on landowners.

Appointment of board of viewers.

Appointment and thereon. payment of

Jurisdiction when land is in more than one county.

Rules of proceeding.

Summons served by publication.

Board of viewers to examine lands and route.

Surveys.

Report to set forth: If drainage is practicable; If drainage benefit public health or any public highway or conduce to general welfare.

fare will be promoted by draining, ditching or leveling the same or by changing or improving the natural water courses, and setting forth therein, as far as practicable, the starting point, route and terminus and lateral branches, if necessary, of the proposed improvement, and there is filed therewith a bond for the amount of fifty dollars per mile for each mile of the ditch or proposed improvement, signed by two or more sureties or by some lawful and authorized surety company, to be approved by the clerk of the Superior Court and conditioned for payment of all costs and expenses incurred in the proceedings in case the court does not grant the prayer of said petition, the said clerk shall issue a summons to be served on all the defendant landowners who have not joined in the petition and whose lands are included in the proposed drainage district. Upon the return day the said clerk shall appoint a disinterested and competent civil and drainage engineer and two resident freeholders of the county or counties in which said lands are located as a board of viewers to examine the lands described in the petition and make a preliminary report Such drainage engineer shall be appointed upon the drainage engineer, recommendation of the State Geologist, and the compensation for the services of such engineer and his necessary assistants, to be fixed as herein provided, shall be paid by the State Geological and Economic Survey, said sum or sums so paid to be refunded when the drainage fund is subsequently provided by the sale of bonds or otherwise. When the lands proposed to be drained and created into a drainage district are located in two or more counties the clerk of the Superior Court of either county shall have and exercise the jurisdiction herein conferred, and the venue shall be in that county in which the petition is first filed. The law and rules regulating special proceedings shall be applicable to this act, so far as may be practicable. The summons may be served by publication as to any defendants who cannot be personally served as provided by law.

Sec. 3. Examination—Preliminary report.

The board of viewers shall proceed to examine the land described in said petition, and other land if necessary to locate properly such improvement or improvements as are petitioned for, along the route described in the petition, or any other route answering the same purpose if found more practicable or feasible, and may make surveys such as may be necessary to determine the boundaries and elevation of the several parts of the district, and shall make and return to the clerk of the Superior Court within thirty days, unless the time shall be extended by the court, a written report, which shall set forth:

- 1. Whether the proposed drainage is practicable or not.
- 2. Whether it will benefit the public health or any public highway or be conducive to the general welfare of the community.